

Preliminary Amendment dated October 14, 2004

### REMARKS

In the specification, Paragraph Nos. 8, 13, 21-23, 47, 64, 79, 93 and 107-109 have been amended to make minor clerical or editorial corrections, and/or to delete certain portions thereof. Paragraph No. 32 has been completely deleted. With regard to these amendments, it is the Applicant's respectful submission that no new matter has been introduced into the specification.

Claims 1, 3-13, 15 and 18-26 remain in this application. Claims 2, 14 and 16-17 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 3, 13, 15 and 19 are currently amended to delete certain portions thereof, and/or to make minor clerical or editorial corrections thereto. In this regard, it is the Applicant's respectful submission that no new matter has been introduced into any of the claims, and moreover that all of the claimed matter was described in the application as originally filed or was reasonably inferable therefrom.

The abstract has been amended so as to more closely correspond with the currently amended claims.

Consideration of the above-identified application in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, with a view toward issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If after reviewing this preliminary amendment, the Examiner believes that a telephone or personal interview would facilitate the resolution of any matters, the undersigned attorney may be contacted at the number set forth hereinbelow.

Date:

Oct 19/04

Respectfully submitted



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